



The City of Raleigh is Seeking a Director of Transportation

The City of Raleigh, NC invites qualified candidates to apply for the the Director of Transportation position.

Effective July 1, 2016, a reorganization will create a Department of Transportation. The new department will consolidate all aspects of transportation from planning to operations to maintenance in order to optimize service delivery and position the city for ongoing growth.

The City of Raleigh has a Council-Manager form of government with an outstanding reputation for organizational stability. Recent years have seen a number of fresh additions to the City's management team, including the City Manager, three Assistant City Managers, and a number of new Department Directors.

The City of Raleigh and this position offer a rare opportunity for a strong leader to institute and promote innovation, particularly in multi-modal planning and operations. While a number of existing functions from prior departments will be located in the Department of Transportation, there is great flexibility for the new Director to finalize the organizational structure. The new Director will need to demonstrate the capacity to oversee major services such as the transit and parking system; the city's road and infrastructure maintenance needs; and transportation planning and traffic engineering for a successful multi-modal system. Evidence of the ability to cultivate strong partnerships and coordination will also be key given external and internal partnerships, particularly with the City's Planning Department.

The City of Raleigh is among the nation's fastest growing cities, with an estimated population of nearly 440,000 people, up from about 291,000 in the 2000 Census. Given the pace of development and increasing densification, multi-modal transportation investments are critical for the City to maintain a thriving economy and sustainable growth trajectory. A potential Wake County Transit referendum in the fall of 2016 has the potential to be transformative.

The Raleigh Community

The City of Raleigh, founded in 1792, is the second largest city in North Carolina and is situated in the heart of North Carolina's Piedmont region, which is centered between the sandy Atlantic beaches and the Great Smoky Mountains. The City is both the county seat of Wake County and the capital of North Carolina. Raleigh covers an area of more than 144 square miles and is home to a growing and diverse population of more than 440,000 residents. Together with Chapel Hill and Durham, Raleigh forms the Research Triangle Park, which was founded in 1959 as a model for research, innovation and economic development and is now the largest research park in the nation. The metropolitan area, which encompasses Raleigh, also includes Wake, Durham, Orange, Franklin, Chatham and Johnston counties with a population of 1.6 million.

Raleigh is also home to several institutions of higher learning, including North Carolina State University, Wake Technical Community College, Meredith College, William Peace University, Shaw University and St. Augustine's University. Raleigh is consistently recognized as one of the best communities to live work and play.



Raleigh was rated Fastest Growing Metropolitan Area in March 2013 by Forbes Magazine.

Accolades

- #1 Among Mid-Sized American Cities of the Future – The Financial Times, April 2015
- #2 Among 2015 Quality of Life Index in N.C – LawnStarter, December 2015
- #2 Best Large Cities to Live In – Wallet Hub, 2015
- #5 Among Best Local Food Scene – USA TODAY and 10 Best's Readers' Choice, August 2015
- #2 Among Top 10 Music Cities Other Than Nashville – Music From the Row, July 2015
- Among Cities to Watch in 2015 – Urbanful, January 2015

City of Raleigh Transportation Policies and Goals

The adoption of Transportation and Transit as one of six Key Focus Areas in the City of Raleigh's Strategic Plan demonstrates the level of City Council and community priority. While there are 12 specific initiatives to advance transit and transportation, the general themes of the strategic plan include: integrating land use planning and transportation strategies and investments; ensuring that appearance and maintenance of all of the elements of the transportation system are welcoming and build trust; increasing the convenience and connectedness of inter-modal systems; identifying partnership opportunities with public, private and educational local and regional partners; and identifying innovative opportunities to improve the transportation system.

The City's Comprehensive Plan, adopted in 2009, reinforces many of these similar themes and seeks to integrate transportation and land use planning. The opening statements of the Comprehensive Plan's Transportation Element states, "The City of Raleigh recognizes the importance of developing a balanced, efficient, multi-modal transportation network that minimizes impacts to the environment and reinforces the livability of neighborhoods." Though a more expansive list of key transportation issues is included in the document, some key issues include:



- A recognition that road widening and new facilities will not be sufficient to address growing congestion
- Traffic calming will continue to be an issue for neighborhoods as traffic levels increase
- Additional transit, bicycle and pedestrian investments will continue to be necessary to accommodate future growth
- Coordination between the City, NCDOT, CAMPO, GoTriangle, and other public and private organizations is critical
- Commitment to the need to increase scope of transit services to create a viable and attractive mode

A number of key policy discussions and community investments are currently underway including:

- Improvements to the function and amenities at GoRaleigh Station, the downtown transit hub
- To service current Amtrak and potential future commuter rail service
- The Wake County Transit Plan and (anticipated) Fall referendum on a transit sales tax
- Accelerated investments in bus amenities
- Implementation of a Bike Share program
- Signal System Upgrades
- Ongoing implementation of the BikeRaleigh Plan, adopted in 2009 and currently undergoing an update
- Revisions to the City's Neighborhood Traffic Management Policy
- Downtown Parking Assessment
- Numerous corridor and streetscape studies
- Improvements in paving conditions through recent funding increases and potential new maintenance practices
- New investments in sidewalk and pedestrian improvements
- 2013 Transportation bond allocated \$75 million with nearly 70% voter approval: similar referendum anticipated in near future to continue investments

Department Profile

The new Department of Transportation was approved by the City Council on March 15, 2016 to be effective July 1, 2016. While the new Director will inform the final organizational structure, the following functions have been realigned from other parts of the organization:

- Transportation Operations, formerly in Public Works
 - Transit (approximately 20 employees), plus oversight of third party operator
 - Parking (approximately 40 employees)
 - Traffic Engineering (approximately 50 employees)
- Transportation Planning, formerly in City Planning (approximately 10 employees)
- Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO), whose Executive Director currently reports to the Transportation Planning Manager (approximately 10 employees)
- Transportation Field Services, formerly in Public Works Department (approximately 130 employees) which maintains streets, sidewalks, curbs
- Highway Maintenance, formerly in Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources Department (approximately 30 employees)
- Parks Construction and Maintenance, formerly in Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources Department (approximately 10 employees)

Candidate Profile

The Director of Transportation reports directly to the Assistant City Manager for Services, but coordinates extensively with the City Manager and the other Assistant City Managers, most frequently with the Assistant City Manager assigned to oversight of the Strategic Plan's "Transportation and Transit" objectives and initiatives.

It will be important that candidates can demonstrate exposure to the varied responsibilities of the Department of Transportation, particularly appreciation of transit and other multi-modal strategies, as well as success in implementing innovative transportation strategies and solutions. Experience in a growing community will be helpful in anticipating unique needs and challenges that Raleigh faces. Strong collaboration, communication and team-building skills will be critical, both in light of the leadership role in implementing the reorganization as well as the importance of local and regional partnerships.

Education

Any combination of education and/or experience that provides the knowledge, skills and abilities such as a Bachelor's degree in urban planning, transportation planning, traffic engineering, public administration or related fields. Graduate degree or Professional certification preferred to include MS, MPA, PE or AICP.

Experience

Must have 10 or more years of progressively responsible related experience in transportation, public administration and management.

Compensation and Benefits

The City of Raleigh offers a salary that is competitive for communities of comparable stature and is based on the selected candidate's qualifications and experience. Benefits include participation in the Local Government Employees' Retirement System, vacation and sick leave, paid holidays, group life insurance, matching 457B retirement savings plan, and medical/dental insurance.

Application and Selection Process

The application deadline is April 29th, 2016. To be considered please complete an application at www.raleighnc.gov/employment. Attach a letter of interest, resume and salary requirements along with 3 professional references to your electronic application. Candidates best suited for the position will be invited to participate in the interview process.

